232228

POLREP #08
50th and Hayes Site
743, 745, 731, 729, 738, 740, and 737 50th Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20019

ATTN: RRC, C. Kleeman, M. Welsh, C. Ruleman (DC ECU), S. Smith (DC Fire/EMS), E. Ralston (NPS)

EVENT: Time-Critical Removal/Continuing Site Assessment

I. SITUATION (as of December 28, 1999):

A. This Polrep covers site activities that occurred on 13 and 14 December 1999, as well as additional information gathered since the issuance of polrep #7.

B. The D.C. Environmental Crimes Unit (ECU) requested EPA assistance with the site located at 50th and Hayes, which was contaminated with waste oil/petroleum, tires, and other flammable materials. It was alleged that ongoing contamination of the site was impacting the environment, including an elementary school located across the street from the property. An initial assessment performed by OSCs Stanton and Boyd in February 1999 concluded that no Removal response action was required, based on the information available. However, in September 1999, D.C. ECU investigators reported that the contaminated soils at the site could be ignited and that, once ignited, the fires were difficult for the D.C. Fire Department to suppress. Based on this report, OSC Stanton determined that a Superfund response action pursuant to the NCP was appropriate and necessary and initiated a Superfund response to erect a fence to limit access to the property and deter ignition of fires.

C. During the weeks of September 13 and 20, 1999, EPA erected a fence to limit access to the Site. Soil samples were taken to determine the sources of the soils' ignitability, as well as the type and level of potential threat posed by the Site. While analytical results did not indicate that the soils were ignitable, high levels of lead, exceeding EPA Risk-Based Criteria for both residential and industrial soils, were found.

D. On 24 November 1999, a surveyor was brought to the Site to identify the precise property lines of the lots comprising the portion of the Site that was fenced as part of EPA's Removal action. At the time of that visit, a DC Fire/EMS Inspector identified a potential contamination threat on areas of the Site that had not previously been sampled and to which access was unrestricted. At the request of the Fire/EMS Inspector, the OSC agreed that further sampling was warranted to assess whether there is a threat to public health or the environment on the areas of the Site where access is not restricted.

E. PERSONNEL ON SITE: EPA-1, SATA-2

F. WEATHER: Weather conditions during site operations were overcast and rainy with

temperatures in the low to middle 50s.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN:

A. Site operations began with a site walk-through and activity briefing. EPA and SATA designated sample locations and marked locations with survey flags. A Health and Safety meeting was held, during which physical and chemical hazards of the site were discussed.

B. SATA collected 17 soil samples, 14 samples (one duplicate) collected in the grassy area adjoining the Quality Auto Parts (QAP) building, and 3 collected at the EPA fenced area. Prior to taking samples in the QAP lot, the OSC and SATA unearthed several areas to ascertain whether the soils were clean fill, brought into the Site following the demolition of the building, or older soil. It was the opinion of both the OSC and SATA, based on the color, appearance, and odor of the soils, that the soils had been in place for some time and were not backfill.

C. The samples were analyzed for various parameters based upon location and suspected contaminates. A grid was established on the QAP lot in an approximately 25 foot by 31 foot layout, and samples were collected at intersecting grid points. The samples at the fenced lot were collected from a gravel pile located within the fenced area, and surrounding the previous sample location of SS-14. Samples were collected at a depth of 0 to 6 inches.

D. The following table outlines sample collection activities, sample identifiers, time of collection, parameters samples analyzed for and any additional comments.

Sample ID	Time	Location	Parameters	Comments
SS-15	1030	5' from SS-14	Lead	Slightly sandy - clayey
SS-16	1045	Btwn SS-14 and SS-13	Lead	Slightly sandy - clayey
SS-17	1045	Gravel pile	Lead	Rocky, black silt-like soil
QA-01	1200	Grid QA-01	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-02	1210	Grid QA-02	TAL & CN-, TCL	Tile directly under sample location. Sample collected from soils around tile.
QA-03	1215	Grid QA-03	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-04	1220	Grid QA-04	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-05	1230	Grid QA-05	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay

Sample ID	Time	Location	Parameters	Comments
QA-06	1235	Grid QA-06	TAL & CN-, TCL	Matrix Spike/Matrix Spike Duplicate (MS/MSD). Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-07	1300	Grid QA-07	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-08	1330	Grid QA-08	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-09	1345	Grid QA-09	TAL & CN-, TCL	Sandy-orange soil
QA-10	1350	Grid QA-10	TAL & CN-, TCL	Sandy-orange soil
QA-11	1400	Grid QA-11	TAL & CN-, TCL	Sandy-orange soil
QA-12	1410	Grid QA-12	TAL & CN-, TCL	Sandy-orange soil
QA-13	1420	Grid QA-13	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay
QA-14	1210	Oil stain on QAP lot	TAL & CN-	Dark brown to black sticky soil
QA-15	1300	Dupe of QA-07	TAL & CN-, TCL	Dark brown-loamy to red/orange clay

E. Site activities and grid layout and selected sample locations were photographed, and site activities documented in SATA logs.

F. Due to heavy rains, SATA demobed from site to a dry location to complete labeling, tagging, and completing chain of custody forms. Time constraints inhibited SATA from hand delivering collected samples to EPA Region III laboratories at Fort Meade, MD on 13 December 1999. Samples were hand delivered to EPA Region III laboratory at Fort Meade, MD on 14 December 1999.

G. The area in front of the fence gate at the 50th and Hayes lot continues to be a dumping ground for miscellaneous trash. Remains and debris of what seemed to be bathroom fixtures and cabinets had been dumped in front of the gate since the last EPA visit, along with several bags of trash.

H.. On December 28, 1999, the OSC received the surveyors report and map from SATA. SATA determined, and the OSC agreed, that the location of sample SS-14 appears to have been placed incorrectly on the map; although the map shows the sample point to be closer to Hayes Street than either SS-13 or SS-12, all previous measurements have shown the samples to be equidistant. This measurement will be confirmed during the next Site visit. However, the map does confirm that the EPA fence does extend beyond the end of

Lot 38. In addition, the corner of the fence impedes upon a public alley on Lots 36 and 37.

III. FUTURE ACTIONS:

A. EPA and SATA are to receive and interpret analytical results from EPA Region III laboratory on 10 January 2000. Upon receipt of analytical, SATA will prepare a Trip Report detailing site activities and analytical results. Upon receipt of analytical, OSC and SATA will review data, and future site activities will be decided accordingly.

B. During the next Site visit, the OSC and SATA will determine whether SS-14 has been placed correctly on the surveyors' map so that the area of contamination is properly documented.

C. Prior to taking any further Removal action at the Site, the OSC will confer with D.C. representatives regarding the placement of the fence and any other activities to be performed upon District property. However, as noted in polrep #7, D.C. representatives present for previous Removal activities at this Site provided permission for fence extension and offered assistance as needed.

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